

Please amend page 1, lines 2-3 so it reads:

Rewrite the last paragraph of page 4 as follows:

This invention is an improvement over the prior art in that (a) the carrier material is rigid and elastic so that substantial orthopedic support (i.e., musculo-skeletal support) is provided by just a one layer wrapping, (b) the product is far more durable than Lycra® (synthetic fibers and filaments for generalized use in the industrial arts) and other known, thin elastic based products commonly available, (c) both pressure and silicone therapies may be applied concomitantly by this invention and therefore eliminating a separate and/or repeated process of fitting more than one

Rewrite page 6, at lines 4-5, so it reads:

- -This application is a continuation of Serial No. 09/931,974 filed August 17, 2001, now pending allowed, which is a non-provisional application which claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/226,602 filed August 18, 2000. --.

On page 6, at lines 2-3, rewrite the text so it reads:

FIG. 5 illustrates a method of manufacture using gel bath 30, and carrier 10 carrier 10, and heating element 50.

On page 6, at lines 4-5, rewrite the text so it reads:

FIG. 6 illustrates a river of carrier 10, uncured gel compound 40, and heating element 50.

On page 12, rewrite the text so it reads:

different degrees of tack from the final cured gel. The mixture is poured onto a flat surface, such as large sheet of polycarbonate, and allowed to settle until it is a consistent thickness. The gel, after having been allowed to settle, has a consistent thickness and is surrounded by an appropriate sized wall to contain the gel on the polycarbonate surface. In one embodiment, the gel thickness is approximately 2mm, although the thickness may vary from as little as .5mm up to 4mm. Meanwhile, the carrier 10 may be washed in a mild soapy solution such as Ivory® soap to remove the oils and agents used in processing the fabric, and allowed to air dry. After the gel is settled to a consistent thickness (about 20-60 minutes) the dry carrier 10 is placed on top with the loop surface of the carrier 10 away from the gel. The assembled materials are then allowed to cure. In a preferred embodiment, the combined gel and carrier 10 are placed in an oven

50 for 1-3 hours and at a temperature of about 100 to 180 degrees centigrade until the gel is cured. The cured, assembled materials are then removed from the oven 50 and can then be cut into any shape desired.

Rewrite page 7, as follows:

of a hook-and-loop fastener such as Velcro®. In a particular embodiment, carrier 10 is about 1/8 inch thick. The silicone gel used in gel 5 is commercially available as either a 1:1, 3:1, or 10:1 mixture of a polydiorganosiloxane resin and a catalyst. Generally speaking, the silicone gel is an addition cured polydimethyl-siloxane gel. This type of gel is well described in the literature, including some of the existing patent literature (e.g. U.S. Pat. No. 4,991,574 ("Pocknell") which is incorporated herein by reference). There is no particular reason to limit our device to silicone gel, if there are other gels that provide clinical benefit. Further, additives may be introduced into the gel, including, for example, oils, Ben-Gay™ BEN GAY® (medicinal preparations to be applied externally for use in the treatment of rheumatism, muscular aches and pains, neuralgia, minor bronchial irritations, coughs and throat irritations due to colds) and other topical medications and emollients that seep into the skin area on which the gel is applied. Although other gels may be used, silicone gel has the special benefit of reducing the appearance of hypertrophic and keloid scarring. The advantages of silicone gel are widely known and are also well described in the existing patent literature (e.g. U.S. Pat. Nos. 5,759,560 ("Dilon"), 5,656,279 ("Dillon"), and

Rewrite page 13, lines 1-11, so it reads:

The present invention also lends itself well to mass production by coextrusion as shown in Fig. 5. In this embodiment, stretchable carrier 10 is continuously unrolled from a large roll of material onto a bath 30 of gel. As the carrier 10 is removed from the bath 30 a layer of gel 40 adheres to the carrier 10 and settles to a uniform thickness. The stream of combined carrier/gel is then passed through a heating oven 50 and cured. At the other end of the oven 50 are take-up rolls and/or cutting fixtures to facilitate rolling or cutting the cured product into any desired configuration.

On page 13, at lines 12 to 21, rewrite the text so it reads:

In another embodiment shown in Fig 6, an amount of gel 40 is deposited onto a river of carrier 10 as the carrier 10 passes beneath the gel. A layer of gel is formed on the side of the carrier 10 opposite the loops and the gel is allowed to settle to a uniform thickness. The river of combined carrier/gel material is then

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passed through a heating oven 50 and cured. At the other end of the oven 50 are take-up rolls and/or cutting fixtures to facilitate rolling or cutting the cured product into any desired configuration.